

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel Claim 5.

Please amend the claims as follows:

5 *Sub C* 1. (Amended) A reusable fresh masonry wall protection device
for rapidly protecting a newly laid block or brick wall from
inclement weather and providing temporary reinforcement for the
upper layer of newly laid blocks or bricks, said newly laid wall
having a width W comprising:

 a thin plastic channel element having a top panel member and
a pair of parallel side panel members,

10 said top panel member having width greater than W
and a smooth, flat inner face which is adapted to engage
the topmost surface of said newly laid block or brick
wall,

15 said parallel side panel members being
springy and angled inwardly so that they
engage the newly laid block or brick wall, and
have lower ends which angle outwardly to form
a guideway for installing said protection
device on said newly laid block or brick wall.

2. (Amended) A reusable fresh masonry wall protection device
for rapidly protecting a newly laid block or brick wall from

inclement weather, said newly laid wall having a width W comprising:

5 a thin plastic channel element having a top panel member and a pair of parallel side panel members,

said top panel member having width greater than W and a smooth, flat inner face which is adapted to engage the topmost surface of said newly laid block or brick wall,

10 said parallel side panel members being springy and angled inwardly so that they engage the newly laid block or brick wall, and have lower ends which angle outwardly to form a guideway for installing said protection device on said newly laid block or brick wall and wherein said top panel member is provided with a plurality of spaced rebar punchouts.

15 3. (Amended) The reusable fresh masonry wall protection device defined in claim 2 wherein said rebar punchouts are elongated along the length of said top panel member and selected from a pull tab with score lines and a series of starburst score lines which are punchable through.

5 6. (Amended) The reusable fresh masonry protection device defined in claim 1 wherein one end of said channel element is

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provided with score lines for adapting the ends of said devices to cover corners and other wall angulations.

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8. (Amended) The fresh masonry protection device defined in claim 7 wherein said top panel member includes a pair of insulated electrical wires for supplying electrical energy to heating elements or light bulbs at spaced intervals along the length of said freshly laid wall.

9. (Amended) The fresh masonry wall protection device defined in claim 7 wherein said top panel member is wider than the width of said newly laid block or brick wall and said side panels have ends that are angled outwardly to form guideways for installing said protection device onto said newly laid block or brick wall.

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12. (Amended) The fresh masonry wall protection device defined in claim 10 wherein said top panel member is wider than the width of said newly laid block or brick wall and said side panels have ends that are angled outwardly to form guideways for installing said protection device onto said newly laid block or brick wall.

13. (Amended) A method for rapidly protecting a newly laid block or brick wall from inclement weather and providing temporary

5 reinforcement for said top row, said newly laid block or brick wall
having oppositely facing sides and a top row of blocks or bricks,
said top row having an end block or brick, and providing temporary
reinforcement for said top row comprising:

10 (a) providing reusable extruded channel member having a top
panel member and a pair of parallel side panel members, said
parallel side panel members being springy and angled inwardly so
that they simultaneously engage said oppositely facing sides of the
newly laid block or brick wall when in place on the wall and have
angled ends forming a guideway for receiving the top row of said
newly laid block or brick wall,

15 (b) engaging said sides of said wall adjacent the top with
one end of said guideway and expanding the distance between the
engaging side panel members by the width of said wall,

20 (c) then pivoting said channel member about the point of
engagement of said side panel members with said sides in a
generally downward direction to seat one end of said channel member
on said wall, and essentially align said channel member with said
wall, and

(d) then seating the remainder of said channel member on the
top of said wall by progressively pressing downwardly on said top
panel member beginning at said one end.

Add the following new claims:

Sub C 15. A reusable fresh masonry wall protection device for rapidly protecting from inclement weather and temporarily reinforcing the top layer of a newly laid block or brick wall, having a width W and oppositely facing sides, comprising:

Bb 5 a thin plastic shell element having a top panel member and a pair of parallel side panel members, said top panel member has a width which is wider than the width of the newly laid block or brick wall and the lateral ends of said top panel member being joined to said parallel side panel members, said parallel side
10 member being springy and angled inwardly so that they engage said oppositely facing sides of said newly laid block or brick wall and have lower ends which angle outwardly to form a guideway for installing said protection device on said newly laid block or brick wall.

16. A reusable fresh masonry wall protection device for rapidly protecting from inclement weather and temporarily reinforcing a newly laid block or brick wall, said wall having sides and a width W, comprising a thin plastic channel element,
5 said thin plastic channel element having a top panel member which is wider than the thickness of said wall W and a pair of parallel depending side panel members, said top panel member having a plurality of substantially equally spaced holes therein for rebar passage and said parallel side panel members being coupled to the

10 lateral ends of said top panel member and being springy and angle inwardly so that they engage said sides of said newly laid block or brick wall and have lower ends which angle outwardly to form a guideway for installing said protection device on said newly laid block or brick wall.

17. A method of rapidly protecting a newly laid block or brick wall having oppositely facing sides and a top row of bricks or blocks, from inclement weather and providing temporary reinforcement to said top row comprising:

5 providing reusable first and second channel elements, each said channel element having a top panel member which is wider than said top row and a pair of parallel side panel members which are connected to the lateral ends of said top panel member and angled inwardly so that they simultaneously engage said sides of said
10 block or brick wall when in place, expanding the distance between one end of said side panel members greater than the width of said wall and fitting said channel member about the point of engagement of said side panel members with said wall in a generally downward direction to seat one end of said channel member on said wall and
15 essentially align said channel member with said wall, and

then seating the remainder of said channel member on said top wall by progressively pressing downwardly on said top panel member beginning at said one end, and

repeating the above steps at least one further time in

20 C overlapping relationship with respect to said second channel
B7C element. --